

From: chickadee
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/22/02 2:45pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

I am strongly opposed to the settlement plan being considered presently by the Department of Justice. I would like to explain why.

I am an average home computer user with no special knowledge of computers. Over the years I have been frustrated by the relatively poor quality of Microsoft products and angered by their unfair, and shall I say underhanded, business tactics. There is Microsoft software on my computer (not Windows) that I cannot delete no matter what I do. There is code on my computer that prevents competing products from operating properly. I have found it challenging, to say the least, to NOT use Microsoft products, even though that is my choice.

The thought of children at school being indoctrinated into the world of Windows and Microsoft products gives me shudders. This is not punishment, this is complicity in the strong-arm tactics Microsoft has been using for years. I do not believe this is the intention of the antitrust laws in this country. Schools especially should have a CHOICE as to which products they use to educate our children, whether that's Microsoft, Apple, or other.

If competition is supposed to serve to improve the quality of goods and services, I suggest we allow that process to run it's course. It is simply contrary to our way of life and business to allow one company to succeed because they continually push the limits of what is fair in the marketing of their products. Please do not let us down.

Sincerely,
Sydney Nash
San Francisco, CA